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Jane E. Norton
Lieutenant Governor

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LT. GOVERNOR NORTON FOCUSES ON STATE FINANCIAL STRATEGIES

*As elected chair of the National Lieutenant Governors Association, Norton
addresses important state issues*

(Denver) – Under the direction of Lt. Governor Jane Norton, members of the Executive and Operational committees of the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) will meet November 30 – December 2, 2005, in Perdido, Alabama. As the elected chair of the organization, Norton will convene the executive meeting. She will work with colleagues from across the nation to focus on state financial strategies, discussing best practices, state budgeting trends and other issues of importance.

“States and the territories continue to seek innovative solutions to the many financial challenges facing them,” said Norton. “During the executive meeting, the lieutenant governors will hear from and question national experts on retirement systems, investments, and earmarking within states budgets.”

Alabama has the distinction of having the nation’s most earmarked state budget with 90% of its funds allocated prior to the start of budget debate. The Legislative Finance Office Director will engage moderated discussion of lieutenant governors from a dozen states on earmarking within budgets. In addition, Alabama’s Public Employee Retirement System is recognized nationally for its “out-of-the-box” investing, including ownership of US Airways. The lieutenant governors will engage in debate about these revenue-raising strategies.

“This meeting also charts a course for the business and financial operations of the association for the coming year,” said NLGA Director Julia Hurst. “As such, lieutenant governors will hear about several health care projects, including possible engagement to the “End Cervical Cancer in Our Lifetime” initiative.

The NLGA, organized in 1962, is the professional association for the elected officials who are next in line of succession to the governors in the 50 states and five

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territorial jurisdictions. The organization focuses on issues in state and territorial government including the nation's war on drugs, the future cost and reliability of energy, developing state international trade and homeland security. As a national organization, the NLGA also provides resources and information on the tools available to meet the growing needs of state government.

“NLGA is a vital forum where we can exchange ideas and discuss issues important to our states,” said Norton. “The NLGA provides lieutenant governors with a wealth of information that will help them play an increasingly active role in enhancing services and expanding opportunities in their regions.”

Jane Norton was sworn in as Colorado's 46th Lieutenant Governor on January 13, 2003. Her responsibilities include serving as the chair of the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs; acting as point person for the Owens Administration on health insurance reform; strengthening families by promoting adoption, early childhood care and education efforts/initiatives, mentoring and volunteerism; and serving as Colorado's delegate to the Aerospace States Association and chair of the Colorado Space Coalition.

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